(1) whether they are aware that the Panamkuttichira tank in the Ollur village is in a state of disrepair and in an insanitary condition;

(2) whether they have received requests from the public to clean it and reconstruct the bathing ghats;

(3) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, what steps they have taken to improve the tank?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—(1) The tank is in need of certain repairs.

(2) Yes.

(3) A part provision of Rs. 1,000 has been made in the Panchayat budget of 1111 for repairing the tank.

Loan Department.

42. Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state;—

(a) what amount does the Loan Department now consume a month for establishment charge alone;

(b) what amount has been already spent on establishment and preliminaries since the announcement of the granting of economic depression relief loans by the Government?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Rs. 2,745 per mensem.

N. B.— This figure is exclusive of the pay of the temporary staff entertained in Civil Courts.

(b) Rs. 22,991—2—9.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What will be the approximate cost consumed by the department by the time the loan will be fully distributed?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It will be about Rs. 60,000. The amount actually spent so far comes to Rs. 39,000 and odd. Taking that six months more will be required to complete the work, the cost would come in the neighbourhood of Rs. 60,000.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—So am I to understand that for distributing 5 lakhs, Government will have to spend Rs. 60,000?

Mr. President.—I ventured to give an explanation in my opening speech how no useful purpose will be served by that department. The charge is absolutely inexcusable. We will have to wind up the concern.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Our suggestion now is that some attention may be made to reduce the cost of this department. It is superfluous.

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Mr. President.—Every attempt will be made in the direction.

43. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the amount consumed by the establishment working for the disbursement of the economic depression loan inclusive of Edavam 1110 in the shape of salaries;

(b) the amount of Travelling allowance drawn by the officers of the Department inclusive of the above period;

(c) other expenses connected with the department inclusive of the said period?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Rs. 15,223—3—0.

(b) Rs. 3,073—15—0.

(c) Rs. 1,949—0—9 (contingencies).

44. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the number of applications hitherto examined by the Economic Depression Loan Officer or officers since their appointment;

(b) the number of applications passed up-to-date;

(c) the number of applications rejected?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) 679.

(b) 51.

(c) 468.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether any amount has been distributed?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—We have begun distribution. Till yesterday three applications were disposed of. Including a few more which will be disposed of to-day the amount distributed will come to Rs. 10,000.

Mr. President.—One reason for delay is due to the fact that under our Civil Procedure Code an attachment once made in the court subsists even though the party may not take any action. It is not the practice in British Courts. That is a peculiar provision in our Code. The officers in the loan department had to take the trouble to hunt after attachments of every one of these properties in the Civil Courts of Cochin. That was one of the fundamental reasons for the delay. So our Civil Procedure Code will have to be amended. Otherwise the working of the Land Mortgage Bank will be absolutely useless.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—The number of applications passed up-to-date comes to 51.

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—All those applications which have been considered by the previous officer have to be reconsidered.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—How is it that so many have been rejected?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The security offered was inadequate.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Indebted people cannot give unimpeachable security. If a high standard is put by the Government they will not be able to satisfy you. If they could give unimpeachable security why should they need your help at all?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.— May I know the number of applications received?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—3,890.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—In order to help this indebted peasantry will the Government be prepared to bring down the high level of security that is required?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Do you mean that Government should not look into the satisfactory nature of the securities? Do you mean to say that the 75 per cent of the value of the property can be advanced is very risky? This 75 per cent is very high valuation.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—In view of the fact that as many as 468 applications have been rejected, may I know whether they can in any way bring down the rigours of security?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Do you mean to say that Government should not abundantly protect the money advanced by the Government?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—What is the total amount of debt?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Roughly about 70 lakhs.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—The Government should take the standard of security before the depression began.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Government should have abundant security for the money advanced.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Due to the fact that the peasantry are indebted, the security offered will be naturally low. Will they make any deviation in the nature of the security?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—There are rules laid down for advancing money. There are favourable conditions like easy payment in instalments and all that. Are we to add that money

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will be advanced even though the security is insufficient? Categorically, if the properties are sufficient the money will be advanced.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen.—In the point of security some deviation ought to be made, in view of the fact that the security level has come down now because of the harassing indebtedness of the peasants.

Mr. President.—Even though the security is not adequate Government should advance money. As it is 75 per cent of the value is advanced. Does the Hon'ble Member want that to be reduced?

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen.—I mean that the pre-depression value of the property should be taken into consideration. Otherwise not even one per cent of the debtors will be benefitted by the scheme.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government at least kindly make a note of it?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—That is money should be advanced on the assumption that the properties were offered for loan some years before.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen.—In other words the debt amount will have to be lowered.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—By how much has the value of immoveable properties come down since the depression?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It depends on the nature of the property and it also depends upon the locality in which it is situated and several other things.

Chiras near Kallettumkara Railway Station.

45. **Mr. A. V. Moothedan.**—With reference to Government's reply (No. D-4-11080/1109) to the petition dated 26th Kumbham 1109 from the residents of Kallettumkara, will the Government be pleased to state how many chiras are there near the Railway Station where water is available for drinking and bathing purposes during the hot months of Kumbham, Meenam and Medam?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—Three.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—Will the Hon'ble Member inform the House who reported to the Government that there are three Chiras?

Mr. President.—When Government itself gave the answer why should you put such a question?

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